



Left: One of the "Animagic" Tree People from the Rankin/Bass feature film *Merry* (1973), starring Desi Arnaz and Zero Mostel. It was given to Romeo Muller by Masaki Suzuki in Japan. Muller actually appeared in the film and he wrote the lyrics to the song "Peace Berries," which was filmed in "Animagic" (photos courtesy of Gene Muller). Right: Mortimer Snerd and Charlie McCarthy puppets from the unaired television pilot *The Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy Show*. Below: Punch and Judy "Animagic" figures from an unproduced TV special for *The Enchanted World of Danny Kaye* series (1971). Punch was to be voiced by Jerry Lewis and Judy by Carol Burnett. Considerable pre-production was completed on this project, including a full set of song demos written by Maury Laws and Jules Bass.



SIX

The Original Screenplay

Romeo Muller was a significant member of the Rankin/Bass team. He could take a premise and expand on it beyond expectations. Character designer Paul Coker, Jr. explains, "I would always enjoy getting the scripts Romeo wrote. They were written so well that it made my job easier. By reading the scripts you could tell that this wasn't the standard material written for children. They had a great deal of quality and warmth."

On the following pages, you'll find Romeo's original October 28th, 1963 draft of his *Rudolph* screenplay. It's the most interesting draft of the script and really gives an insight to what Romeo (and for that matter, Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass) were thinking. You can see the many song ideas that were nixed for time, and some of the revisions hand-written right on the page. One scene in particular to note is on page 4-3, in which Yukon Cornelius pulls his guns, firing a cork from one and a blast from another. This action was altered by the producers and perhaps was a "no no" even in 1964. It certainly would have been trimmed by the networks today. Also, on page 4-9 of this script, it's clear that Romeo intended to give the song "Silver & Gold" to Yukon. Larry D. Mann did originally record this song for the special, but his version is lost at the time of this printing. Just before Yukon, Hermey and Rudolph get to the Island of Misfit toys on page 4-12, they meet up with some beautiful mermaids, and there is a scene with three flying kites on page 4-16 that didn't make the final cut.

There are enough differences in this version of the script that I felt it was important to include the entire draft. Other books have reprinted exact dialogue from films and television specials, but I wanted to shed light on how this special developed from the beginning. Romeo gives a lot of direction as far as songs and incidental music go and this draft gives insight to his talents. Together with Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass, he created the world of the Island of Misfit toys that we know today. Heartfelt thanks go to Gene Muller and the Muller estate providing this original draft.

THE
GENERAL
IMMORTAL
FANTASY
DRAMA

SECTION ONE

CHARACTER

THE STORY OF

REINDEER
2000
IMMORTAL
FANTASY

A VideoCraft Production

First Draft Screenplay
Written by: Romeo Miller
10-20-63

1-2

SECTION ONE

FADE IN

MONTAGE OF FADE, JUMP-CUT, BLACK AND WHITE, LIVE ACTION SHOTS. (NEWSREEL...STOCK, ETC.)

The shots create a description of fierce blizzard conditions. Pictures of roads blocked by drifting snow banks; people in boots and heavy winter coats shoveling hopelessly; snow plows bogged down; houses half buried under snow; animals in distress; people pushing forward against the ice and wind; etc.

OUND: HOWLING WIND.

MUSIC: ANGST, BONE-CHILLING, DISASTER THEME.

AFTER FIVE SECONDS OF MONTAGE SUPERIMPOSE

Shots of realistic newspaper headlines:

1. "COLDWAVE IN 12TH DAY"
2. "FURTHER MORE INCHES OF SNOW EXPECTED"
3. "AIRPORTS CLOSED DOWN"
4. "ALL TRANSPORTATION DISRUPTED"
5. "FOUL WEATHER MAY POSTPONE CHRISTMAS!"

SPECIAL EFFECT

Suddenly a great blast of snow fills the screen...blinking out the live action shots and headlines. The swirling ice particles form a spinning pattern on the screen. Intricately beautiful snowflake designs blow toward the Camera.

OUND: WE HEAR THE VOICES OF CHILDREN...ECHO EFFECT.

VOICES
 "Postpone Christmas?" "Aww noooo!"
 "No toys this year?" "It can't be!"
 "Santa won't let it happen! He just won't!"

As the voices are heard, the snowflake patterns blowing toward the Camera slowly take on faint tinges of color.

Suddenly the swirling snow settles ~~swirling~~

MEDIUM SHOT IN ANIMATED COLOR OF A HIGH STREET INTO A SNOW-DRIFT.

"WELCOME TO CHRISTMASVILLE"

Signed...
 SANTA CLAUS

CAMERA QUICKLY PULLS BACK AND AWAY FROM SIGN AND STARTS TO PAN. To see a wonderfully fanciful, Wintery landscape.

MUSIC: HAS BLURRED DURING TRANSITION FROM STORM THEME INTO A CHEERY, TICKLING, ICY MELODY WHICH UNDERSCORES.

The moving Camera quickly explores the magical, glittering world into which it has been plunged. Everything seems to be made half of ice and snow...and half of bright colorful Christmas boxes and wrappings. There are igloos with colorful ribbons for decorations. There are homes which look like great Christmas packages turned into domiciles. Christmas candy dots the snowy terrain...as sea shells might dot the shore-line. A colorful, fairytale castle, made of twinkling, jewel-like ice blocks..dominates the background.

Action! Polar bear cubs frolic with seals. Whales splash about in the water. A few fanciful eskimos, in bright pastel furs..skip by carrying loads of Christmas cards.

AS THE CAMERA MOVES ACROSS THE LANDSCAPE, IT DISCOVERS A LITTLE, ROUND SNOWMAN WEARING A BLACK DERBY.

The snowman hails the Camera and it moves into him.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SNOWMAN.

He is a roly-poly, Runyonesque, little fellow. Indeed, he might be the NicelyGically Johnson of snowmen. But his name happens to be Sam. He proceeds to talk to the Camera.

SAM
 If I live to be a hundred...I do not forget them big snow storms a couple of years ago. The weather closes in and the world almost misses Christmas.
 (He shudders.)

OUT OF SAM.

We note that his bow tie is made of holly.

(MORE.)

1-3

(SHOT CONT'D.)

SAM
(Confidentially to Camera.)
Which, as we all know, should not
happen to your worst enemy...such
lads the whole world.

MEDIUM CU OF SAM. DIF. ANGLE.

SAM
Uh...excuse me. The name's Sam.
(He tips his derby and
shrugs.)
So I'm a talking account...and so.
(He smiles and wrinkles.)

MUSIC: A BRIGHT, JOYFUL THEME UNDERSCORES.

CAMERA PULLS BACK AND FOLLOWS SAM AS HE WALKS THROUGH THE
QUAILTY, BLUSTERY LANDSCAPE.

SAM
Anyway, I make my rounds up here
in Christmas-ville. Better known
[in the geography books] as the
North Pole.

Sam trips over a small sign in the ground. A piece of his
foot breaks off into powdery snow. This does not distract him
at all. He merely reaches down and puts some new snow onto
his toe...and is-as-good-as new again.

SAM
(During above business)
...Which, considering my makeup, is
a fairly smart place to live.
Personally it suits me fine.
(He looks down at the sign
over which he tripped.)

CU OF SIGN:

"CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST"

An arrow points to the right.

SAM (VO)
"Christmas Tree Forest"

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF SAM WALKING INTO FOREST.

We see a grove of fully decorated Christmas trees of all shapes
and sizes. Their lights twinkle brightly.

1-4

(SHOT CONT'D.)

SAM
(Arranging tinsel on
one of the trees.)
Yeah...nice place to live.

He walks on. A polar bear, dressed as a woodman is chopping
down one of the trees.

CAMERA FOLLOWS SAM TO WOODMAN.

SAM
Nice neighbor too.
(To Polar Bear Woodman.)
Hi Pete.

SAM
(Casually)
Hi Sam.

SAM
(Indicating tree.)
Where's that off to?

BEAR
(Looking at tag.)
Santa's marked it for a little
girl named Dina.

SAM
Glad to hear it!
(He waves a cool goodbye and
walks out of frame.)

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. OUTSIDE FOREST.

Sam walks out and continues to talk to Camera...which
MOVES IN AND FOLLOWS SAM.

SAM
Ya' see, all in all we are a
pretty friendly group.

He strolls past a group of seals.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SEALS.

They all hold paint brushes in their mouths. They are
busily painting stripes and decorations on Christmas
packages and hanging them out on a clothes line to dry.
Sam watches them for a second. Establish.

SAM
(Explaining to Camera.)
Christmas Seals. Yeah, we all keep
pretty busy up here.

1-5

MEDIUM CU OF SAM.

SAM
Of course, the number one citizens up here are the Clauses. Santa and Mrs. Personal friends of mine. Want to meet them? Easy.

(Pointing.)
Right around the iceberg...across the glacier their...

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM HIM AND FOCUSES ON LONG SHOT OF CASTLE.

SAM (VO)
...first castle on the left. Matter of fact, the only castle on the left.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CASTLE.

It is a great beehive of activity...as small Elf-like people dash in and out of doors carrying parts of toys.

SOUND: GREAT MACHINE NOISES. THE CHUG-CHUG OF STEAM ENGINES AND GRINDING OF METAL.

CAMERA MOVES TOWARD WINDOW...AS IF TO GO INSIDE.

DISSOLVE TO

INTERIOR OF GREAT HALL OF CASTLE. LONG SHOT.

Toys and Christmas packages are stacked everywhere. Elves run all over the place.

_SOUND: WE HEAR A GREAT, HEARTY AND FAMILIAR "HO-HO!".
THE CAMERA MOVES AND PICKS UP A HIGH SHOT ON THE WALL.

We recognize this as the traditional Santa Claus.

CAMERA MOVES OVER AND FOCUSES ON SANTA HIMSELF.

He is seated at a table. Mrs. Claus stands next to him.

CLOSE MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa is a bit of a disappointment at first...HE IS EXHAUSTED much thinner than we expected. He looks like a hard-working man...sitting at his dining room table in his shirt-sleeves.. picking at his food. Mrs. Claus is a happy, but determined, return housewife. She stands next to Santa and holds up his traditional red and ermine suit.

(Rare.)

1-6

(SHOT CONT'D.)

MRS. CLAUS
Papa! You haven't touched a morsel.
Huh! I'll have to take this in.
(Indicates suit.)

SANTA
I'm busy, Mmm. I have to practice my Ho-Ho's. It's almost Christmas.

MRS. CLAUS
(Holding suit up to him.)
Huh! Whoever heard of a skinny Santa?
Huh!

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
Pray, do not worry kiddies. Mrs. Claus will have him plenty fattened up by Christmas Eve. It's always the same story.
(He looks up.)
Oh...?

MEDIUM LONG SHOT FROM LOW ANGLE... (SAM'S POV)

He sees a large stock, dressed in a Mailman's suit. The Stork flies over with a heavy sack of letters.

CAMERA FOLLOWS STORK AS HE SWOOPS DOWN AND LANDS NEXT TO SAM.

STORK
Hi, Sam.

SAM
Hi, Gus.
(Indicating letters.)
More Christmas orders ~~from~~ from the kids!

GUS
Yeah, from all parts of the World.
"Dear Santa...please bring me this.
Please bring me that." Whoow!
(Plays wings.)
Well, can't dawdle. Be seein' ya!

He flies off and out of frame.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR MEDIUM CU OF SAM.

SAM
(Smiling..breathing deeply.)
Huh... I loves this Christmassy time of year.

(SHOT COOT'D.)

L-4

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE WITH CHRISTMAS-CAROL THEME.

SAM
 Especially when everything is running happy and smooth...like it is this season. Nothing like that year of the big snow storms.
 (He shudders.)

CLOSE MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM. DIF. ANGLES.

SAM

Oh that was a terrible time. I do not know what we woulda' done without Rudolph to pull us through. Anyway...

He stops and looks at the Camera as if someone had asked him a question.

HAR

Huh? Rudolph! You heard of him? He's this reindeer. You know. Full fledged.. with the hatrack and everything.
 (Puts hands to head like antlers.)

What?

(Surprised.)
 Some of you are not acquainted with the story of Rudolph? Oh well, leave me fill ya' in on a few things.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

He pulls up an ice-block and sits.

SAM

Well, ya' know how Santa uses these flying reindeer to pull his sleigh?
 Oh sure...they're famous...

He speaks the lines of the introduction to the song, "RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER"....AS MUSIC UNDERSCORES.

SAM

"You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen...
 Comet and Cupid and Donner And Blitzen.
 But do you recall...
 The most famous reindeer of all?"

L-8

DISSOLVE TO

OPENING TITLES...FULL ORCHESTRA

The title music is an overture of all the songs in the show except the title song. This we save for the closing.

At the end of the Opening Titles...

FADE OUT

END OF SCENIC SHOT

FIRST COMMERCIAL BREAK

SECTION TWOSECTION TWO

FADE IN

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM. SAME AS END OF FIRST SECTION

SAM

(To Camera.)
So leave me tell ya' about Rudolph.
It all started a couple of years
before the big snow.

CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES IN TO CU OF SAM.

SAM

It was Springtime. We had a beautiful
Spring that year. Why the thermometer
got up to twenty below. Whoow!The background lighting becomes a warm yellow. Sam starts
to perspire. He picks up a sheet of ice and starts to fan
himself.

Suddenly he looks up and registers surprise.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT FISHEYE ANGLE OF GUS, THE STORE, FLYING
THROUGH THE BRIGHT SKY WITH A GREAT BUMBLE.

He circles and settles down next to Sam.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. GUS AND SAM.

SAM

Christmas Orders!!! At this
time of year?

GUS

Muh...got a routine delivery for
Mr. and Mrs. Donner. Ya' know...
Santa's lead reindeer?

Suddenly there is some movement in the bag. Gus springs up.

GUS

Wow! Better get a move on! Can't
be late with a package like this.

LONG SHOT. GUS FLIES AWAY.

2-2

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO A CAVE. A HOLLY WREATH SURROUNDS THE NAMEPLATE: "THE DONNERS".

Donner, a large, blustering, proud reindeer paced back and forth nervously. His friend, Blitzen, is next to him, trying to calm him down.

BLITZEN
Relax, Donner.

DONNER
Ohhhh, Blitzen! If anything should go wrong!!!!

BLITZEN
Easy, boy...I've been through this before. There's nothing to it!

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

There is suddenly the sound of whimpering from inside the cave. Donner stops in his tracks. He looks to Blitzen...he is plainly worried. Then he looks back to cave entrance.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF ENTRANCE TO CAVE.

A fat seal, wearing a nurse's cap, waddles to the door. She mumbles

SEAL
Mr. Donner....it's a buck!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INCLUDE SEAL, DONNER AND BLITZEN.

Donner is stunned for a moment. Then he jumps into the air and gives out a bellow of pure joy.

DONNER
A buck! I'm the father of a bouncing buck!!

SONG LYRICS

~~Donner steps of the joys of fatherhood.
"MY BOY-MY BOY" As he sings, other
bucks join him. He hands out carrots
as if they were cigs. All the bucks
run happy and sing their congratulations
to him.~~

10-9-67

2-3

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND SEAL.

DONNER
Nurse, may I see him?

SEAL
(Nods yes.)
But you must be quiet.

They start to enter the cave.

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM THROUGH THE ENTRANCE OF THE CAVE AND FRAME MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR.

Seated in the corner...in a pool of light, is Mrs. Donner, a beautiful doe. A tiny fawn is next to her...his head buried under her forelegs.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF MRS. DONNER AND FAWN. ESTABLISH.

MUSIC: SOFT LULLABY UNCHANGING.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. DONNER ENTERS THE FRAME.

~~My buck! My buck!~~

MRS. DONNER
Darling, I'm so happy for you.

DONNER
We'll call him Rudolph...after Rudolph the Great...the ancient king of the Reindeer.

CU OF MRS. DONNER.

She looks up at Donner with great love in her soft eyes.

MRS. DONNER
Yes, my darling.

MEDIUM CU OF DONNER.

Pollow him as he struts around the cave proudly.

DONNER
Because that's what my boy's gonna' be.
The bravest, biggest, bestest, buckiest
buck ever born! And one of these days
he'll be racing right alongside me...
pulling Santa's sleigh.

2-4

MEDIUM SHOT OF FAMILY GROUP.

RUDOLPH AND DONNER Donner has joined his wife and child.

MRS. DONNER
(Tenderly, looking down.)
Rudolph.

The little fawn starts to move.

DONNER
Hey! He knows his name already.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE TWO SHOT AS DONNER PUFFS HIS HEAD DOWN TO RUDOLPH.

DONNER
Rudolph...my son...Rudolph.

The little fawn slowly pulls his head away from his mother. As he turns toward Donner we see the cute little fellow for the first time. He has an appealing, spunky face. He is nose to nose with his father. All is quiet for a moment of pure enchantment. Then the baby deer blinks, smiles and....

SUDDENLY HIS NOSE LIGHTS UP A GLARING RED!

SOUND: A DISCORDANT "BLERP"

RUDOLPH
(with a silly smile...in
a tiny voice.)
Pa...pa..

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Donner is stunned. As pulls himself back and blinks...horrified. Rudolph's nose goes out.

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
(Breathing a sign of relief.)
Must be seeing things. For a moment there...

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE RUDOLPH, MR. AND MRS. DONNER.

DONNER
(Starts to laugh.)
Ha-ha. Seemed like he had a
shiny red nose...ha-ha-ha!MRS. DONNER
May, Donner. I'd say you were celebrating
with the boys! A shiny red nose indeed!

2-5

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER ON EITHER SIDE OF RUDOLPH.

Rudolph looks from one to the other...and joins them with a cute, piping, silly laugh of his own. They seem a deliriously happy family...until Rudolph's nose blinks on again with...

SOUND: "BLERP"

Mama and Poppa's laughs become frozen on their faces. Their horrified eyes move down to Rudolph, who continues laughing...his little, red nose blinking and bleeping away.

Then Rudolph's laugh slowly fades away. He looks up at his parents with a questioning stare.

CU OF RUDOLPH

RUDOLPH
Kaa-a-a-a Pa...pa!

CU OF MRS. DONNER.

MRS. DONNER
It is shiny!

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
Kaa-a-a-a I'd never say it glowed!!!

ANOTHER SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. MRS. DONNER WALKS UP TO DONNER.

MRS. DONNER
(Trying to calm her husband.)
Now dear...I'm sure it's...it's...DONNER
(A bellow)
It's ANGUISH!!! That's what it is!
(A horrible realization)
How will we face the rest of the herd?
(He walks out of the frame
in complete misery.)
Coconococoo!

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE SHOT OF RUDOLPH.

He is a very confused little fawn. On wobbly legs, all by himself, Rudolph stumbles to his feet. He is very proud of this and his little nose begins.

RUDOLPH
Ma...ma. Pa...pa. See...me!

2-6

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE. DIFF. ANGLE. INCLUDES ALL THREE.

The Donners, in the background, turn around. Rudolph, in the foreground... takes a step.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

They exchange a glance. Donner looks guilty. Then he smiles, his fatherly pride breaking through. He starts to exit out of frame.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH. DONNER ENTERS FRAME.

DONNER

Look, mother! His first step! My buck took his first step! Just imagine that!

His chest swells with pride. But then his eyes return to Rudolph's nose. It gives a great blink.

HOUND: HOOKE!

Donner's antlers sag like a collapsed beach chair.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Mrs. Donner comes up to her husband.

MRS. DONNER

I'm sure something can be done about it. We'll...we'll overlook it.

DONNER

How can we overlook that? His beak blinks like a blinkin' beacon!! May the darn thing will keep us awake nights!!

HOUND: SUDDENLY THERE IS A HEARTY LAUGH FROM OFF CAMERA.

Donner and Mrs. Donner turn and look off to left.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF CAVE..CAMERA LOOKING TOWARD ENTRANCE.

Santa comes into the cave. He still does not wear his Santa suit. He is dressed in a heavy lumber-jacket and hunter's cap. He looks like a sturdy, New England farmer.

SANTA

Well, where's the new member of the family?

He strides into the center of the cave.

2-6

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONNER AND SANTA.

SANTA

After all, if he's going to be on my team someday, he's got to get to know me.

He laughs and exits from frame.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH. SANTA RUBS HIS NOSE.

SANTA

Well Hi there! Aren't you the sturdy little fellow!
(Pats Rudolph's head.)

RUDOLPH

Hoo...te?

SANTA

(Delighted.)
Smart too!

Pleased with himself, Rudolph starts to blink his nose.

HOUND: HOOKE-HOOKE-HOOKE!

Santa jumps back out of the frame. Startled.

OU OF SANTA.

SANTA

Great Bouncing Icebergs!!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER RUSHES UP TO SANTA.

DONNER

Just a childish prank, Santa. I'm sure it'll stop soon as he grows up.

SANTA

Well, let's hope so. He's a lousy
little f...

OU OF SANTA.

SANTA (Sadly.)

A nose like that would surely disqualify him from my sleigh team.
Hoo...te...

(SOME)

100
 Rudolph
 Reindeer
 (Signed)
 (Signature)

2-12

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

We can see great footprints in the snow. Rudolph and Donner come out from behind the snowdrift and stand in the huge prints. They are almost a foot deep!

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER
Someday, son...we'll be rid of that Abominable Snow Monster. Then Christmaville will be safe for good!

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND DONNER

Rudolph shudders and presses up against his father.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
So it just goes to show ya...no matter where ya' live...even when it's Christmas every day, ya' can't get along with all the neighbors.

(He smiles.)
But aside from the "Abominable", business goes on up here as usual.

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM SAM AND FRAMES A LONG PANORAMIC SHOT OF CHRISTMASVILLE LANDSCAPE.

Snow is falling on an angle from Right to Left.

SAM (VO)
Spring passes and soon it is summer.

DISSOLVE TO

PANORAMIC SHOT OF LANDSCAPE. DIFFERENT ANGLE. SNOW FALLING ON AN ANGLE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT.

SAM (VO)
Summer passes into Fall.

DISSOLVE TO

PANORAMIC SHOT. DIFF ANGLE. SNOW FALLING STRAIGHT DOWN.

SAM (VO)
And soon...it is right before Christmas.

2-13

CAMERA DOLIES THROUGH SNOW UP TO SANTA'S CASTLE.

The Lighting darkens to a deep blue...as if nighttime. Bright lights shine inside the castle...throwing their warm glow outside onto the snow.

CAMERA COVES IN TO ONE OF THE WINDOWS AND GOES INSIDE.

LONG SHOT OF LARGE ASSEMBLY ROOM WITH ELVES SITTING AT A LONG, WINDSHE TABLE WORKING ON TOYS.

SAM (VO)
(During above action)
...and we all work nights. Yes, this is truly the busiest time of the year. Everybody is gettin' ready for that big, big surprise on the night of the 24th. For all the toys Santa brings on Christmas Eve are made by these here Elves.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSER SHOT OF THE ELVES WORKING. IT NOW WIDENS TO DOLLY ALONG THE TABLE FOR MEDIUM CLOSERUP VIEWS OF THEM LAUGHING AND TICKLING AND PAINTING.

MUSIC: PEEPY, WHIMSICAL AIR UNDERSCORED.

SAM (VO)
Seems Elves got this certain knock for toy-makin'! I mean they really thrive on it!! Don't think of nothin' else, hardly. All except for this one misfit...

CAMERA SUBDUEDLY STOPS. FOCUSED ON MEDIUM CU OF ELF CALLED HERMIE, Hermie is a true Elf and wears the traditional Elf suit. However, he looks more like a normal, little boy. His ears are not pointed and his features are regular. In contrast with the other elves...who have been going at toymaking with a great gusto...Hermie is lost in daydreams and is dawdling with a paintbrush...slowly and idiosyncratically painting a red wagon.

SOUND: A VOICE MELLOWS FROM OFF CAMERA.

VOICE
HERMIE!!!
Hermie sits up.

FELIXX TWO SHOT. HERMIE AND ELF FOREMAN.

The Elf Foreman is a round, fat little fellow with ~~traditionally~~ traditional, Elf features. He has a booming voice.

FOREMAN
Ain't you finished painting that yet!!?
(Holds up half painted wagon in disgust.)
(MORE.)

2-14

(SHOT CONT'D.)

Hermy wakes himself awake from his day dreams.

FOREMAN

You been dawdling over that one wagon all morning!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. BIF. ANGIA. FRANK OTHERS. ELVES.

All Elves glare down at Hermy angrily.

FOREMAN

There's a pileup a mile wide behind you. What's eatting you, boy!

HERMY

(With a weak smile.) Not happy...uh...in my work...uh...I scream.

FOREMAN

WHAT?

CU OF HERMY.

HERMY

I...just...uh...don't like to make... Wh...toys!!

CU OF FOREMAN.

FOREMAN

Oh well, if that's all...
(Double take.)
YOU DON'T LIKE TO MAKE TOYS!!

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF HERMY AND FOREMAN.

HERMY

Unh...no.

Foreman turns to Elf next to him. Speaks to him.

FOREMAN

Hermy don't like to make toys!

This Elf turns around and speaks to Elf next to him.

CAMERA PANS DOWN TABLE AS EACH ELF PANSES ON THE MESSAGE TO THE LEFT.

(MORE)

2-15

As the Elves pass along the message they pick up a rhythm.

ELVES

1. Hermy don't like to make toys!
2. Hermy don't like to make toys!
3. Hermy don't like to make toys!
4. Hermy don't like to make toys!
5. Hermy...
6. Hermy...
7. Hermy...
8. Hermy...
9. Hermy don't like to make toys!!

LONG SHOT OF WHOLE GROUP. ALL LAUGH IN RHYTHM.

ELVES

Ha! Ha-ha! Ha-ha-ha!
An Elf who don't like to make toys!!

SINGING

~~the Foreman starts to sing a song which informs the other that Elves are supposed to love making toys. There's no time to sing about it. The other Elves join in the song...hermy mocks Hermy.~~

ANOTHER SONG:

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF FOREMAN AND HERMY

FOREMAN

(Barcastic.)
Do ya' mind telling me what you do want to do?

CU OF HERMY.

HERMY

(Answering eagerly.)
Well sir...ummsday...I'd like to...
...
(The most wonderful thing
in the world.)
...A...Dentist!

CUT TO SHOT. HERMY, FOREMAN AND OTHER ELVES.

FOREMAN

A DENTIST!!!!!!

(MORE)

2-16

(SHOT CONT'D.)

The other Elves laugh.

FOREMAN
Whoever heard of an Elf dentist!!?

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. HERMNEY AND FOREMAN.

HERMNEY
Well, we need one up here! I've been studying up.
(He takes a thick textbook out from under the table.)
It's fascinating. You have no idea...
(as the Foreman stares at him with unbelieving eyes, Hermey goes on as if he were describing a beautiful landscape.)
Molasses...and bicuspids...and incisors...

CU OF FOREMAN. HE DOESN'T QUITE KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF THIS. HE SCRATCHED HIS HEAD.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FRAMES FOREMAN AND OTHER ELVES.

FOREMAN
(To Other Elves.)
Guys! Come here!

CAMERA FOLLOWS THEM AS THEY LEAVE HERMNEY AND GATHER IN A LITTLE CIRCLE ABOUT THE FOREMAN.

MEDIUM CLOSE LOW ANGLE SHOT OF HERMNEY. AS IF TAKEN FROM INSIDE A HUDDLE.

FIRST ELF.
He's a disgrace to Elfdom.

SECOND ELF
What if the other Christassville folks find out?

THIRD ELF
Our reputation will be ruined!!

FOREMAN
ARIGHT! ALRIGHT!!!! I'LL HANDLE THIS!

The huddle breaks up.

LONG SHOT. ELVES MARCH BACK TO HERMNEY.

FOREMAN
Now listen, you. You're an Elf.
(MURK.)

2-17

(SHOT CONT'D.)

FOREMAN (CONT'D.)
And Elves make ~~any~~ toys. That's the way it is...and that's the way it's always been!

T/W SHOT. HERMNEY AND FOREMAN.

FOREMAN
(Picks up half painted wagon
Shoves it at Hermey.)
Now get to work!

SCENE 1 A FACTORY WHISTLE BLOWS.

FOREMAN
Ten minute break!
(Hermey smiles and leaps up.)
Not for you!!
(He pushes Hermey down again.)
Finish the job!!

LONG SHOT. ELVES, FOREMAN AND HERMNEY.

The Foreman and all the other Elves leave Hermey alone at the table.

MUSIC: SAL CHASE UNDERSCORES....BUILDING TO BOMB.

CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES IN TO HERMNEY.

Tears start to trickle down his little cheeks. He half-heartedly picks up a wagon. Then he puts it down. He reaches across table and brings out his dentistry textbook. He opens it and reads it as if it were finally.

CAMERA HAS NOW MOVED IN TO A MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT.

Hermey starts to sing mournfully...

SONG

Hermey sings first chorus of "RIBBIT" number...which will be reprised later by Rudolph...and again still later by the both of them.)

(S O N G)

2-18

ANOTHER SONG:

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF SAM.

SAM

(Philosophic.)

Ahhh...such is the life of an Elf.
Meanwhile, Rudolph is having his
growing pains too.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUTSIDE OF CAVE. AS SAM TALKS (VO) CAMERA MOVES
INTO CAVE AND PULLS MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH IMPERFECTLY.

SAM (VO)

Old Bonner is determined to keep
Rudolph's nose a secret.MR. AND MRS. BONNER stand with Rudolph, who is bigger and has
more developed personality...comparable to a child of seven.
Bonner stands on his hind paws and holds a black nose-war in
the two front paws.

DONALD

Try it on!

RUDOLPH

(Whining. His nose is freezing.
I can't warm it...Daddy...I don't like it.)

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONALD AND RUDOLPH.

DONALD

You'll like it and wear it!!!

RUDOLPH

Aww...but Daddy...

DONALD does business. He pops the artificial nose over
Rudolph's gleaming red nose. It is an unpleasant looking thing.

CU OF RUDOLPH WITH PHONY NOSE. ESTABLISH.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. MR. AND MRS. DONALD.

MRS. DONALD

Oh Bonner...do you really think...?

DONALD

Now...don't make things any more
difficult than they have to be.
Why it looks fine, Rudolph, just fine.

2-19

(ANOTHER SONG)

RUDOLPH

(Speaking as if he had
a head cold.)

I'm not a berry com-fa-ble.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DONALD AND RUDOLPH.

DONALD

There's more important things than
com-fort. Self respect!! Santa
can't object to you now!

RUDOLPH

I feel re-dy-alist!

DONALD

No argument!! What a way to talk
to your poor father...after he's gone
to all this trouble and expense.Rudolph walks away sadly...out of frame. Mr. Bonner enters
frame. Stands with Bonner. Both look after their little
fawn...sadly. Establish.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. ESTABLISH OF CAVE.

Rudolph comes to the cave entrance and looks out mournfully.
As snow falls about him, he ~~screams~~. Remains pale, sad and wistful.SONG TWOSecond chorus of "RISFIT" number.
Lyrics similar to Hamney's, but
pertaining to Rudolph.

(SINGING)

ANOTHER SONG:PAGE TWOEND OF SECTION TWOANNOUNCEMENT BREAK

3-1

SCENE 1.1. SNOW

FADE IN

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
And as time passes... Christmas comes and goes on schedule... and soon it is April.

DOLLY IN TO

LONG SHOT OF A GROUP OF REINDEER GAMBLING IN THE SNOW.
THE CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST IS IN THE BACKGROUND.

SECTION THREE

SAM (VO)
Now April is a real important time
if ya' happen to be a reindeer.
Cause that's when all the new ~~fauns~~ ^{fauns}
come out with their folks and ~~see~~
one another. Everybody gets together
by the Christmas Tree Forest.

CAMERA PULLS IN FOR CLOSEUP SHOT. PAN OVER GROUPS OF DEER.
We see young and frisky deer and their proud parents behind them. All are framed by the bright Christmas Trees.

SAM (VO)
Ya' see, for a whole year the fauns
have been here little nothin'... and
now, all of a sudden, they have got
to be what's called... yearlings.

CAMERA PULLS IN FOR MEDIUM SHOT OF THE DOUGHERS AND RUDOLPH.

Noelle looks around him... seeing that he ~~is~~ ~~was~~ neat. Poppa adjusts the large, ugly nose. Rudolph ~~is~~ like a fourteen year old boy. He seems very awkward and unsure of himself.

SAM (VO)
And it is no small jump from nothin'
to yearling. It is like havin' to
earn six merit badges all at the same time.

... begins to balk.

RUDOLPH
Aw... Ma... Pa... I don't need anybody
else. You're blazin' for me.

SAM
... If you want to be one of
the best reindeer in the forest
you're gonna have to keep up with the

3-2

CU OF RUDOLPH.

His little eyes cross and look down at the ugly, false nose.

MEDIUM CLOSE TWO SHOT. DONNER AND RUDOLPH.

DONNER
Now...nobody's going to notice that!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Donner pushes Rudolph off with his antlers.

DONNER
Now, go on!

Mrs. Donner comes to Donner as Rudolph exits reluctantly from the frame.

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT. RUDOLPH WALKING ALONG GHYLY.

He walks up to a frisky yearling named Fireball. He pretends not to see him. But Fireball calls...

FIREBALL
Hi! My name's Fireball! What's yours?

RUDOLPH
Rudolf.

FIREBALL
Put it there!

The two yearlings butt heads. Like two kids getting acquainted.

FIREBALL
You talk funny. Got a cold in your nose or something?

CU OF RUDOLPH. HIS LIPS AND NOSE TET.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. FIREBALL AND RUDOLPH.

FIREBALL
Hey...bet mine's bigger than yours.
(Starts to trot away.)

RUDOLPH
(Alarmed...trotting after him.)
Your nose!!!

CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTION AS THEY TROT ALONG.

FIREBALL
(none.)

3-2

(SHOT CONT'D.)

3-3

FIREBALL

Who's talking about noses? I mean the old super-structure. Antlers!

(Confidentially...stops.)

Got ya' bumps yet?

RUDOLPH
Uh...huh.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT.

Rudolph holds his head down. Two little knobs of horn show.

FIREBALL
(A knowing appraisal)
Sneaky...not bad. But take a gander at these!
(Holds his head down. Rudolph looks.)

C'mon. (He leads Rudolph out of the frame.)

RUDOLPH
Where we going?

..10' TRAVELING SHOT. RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL.

FIREBALL
We gotta join the other kids. Make play games!

RUDOLPH
Games?

FIREBALL
Reindeer games. Healthy and necessary my big dad says. Make antlers grow. Besides...
(He stops. Turns to Rudolph and laughs.)
..it's a great way to show off in front of...damsel

EDG SPOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

RUDOLPH
Uh...Re...what are games?

FIREBALL
(With a knowing wink.)
Like ya' mother. Only not quite...
and better. Come on!
(He prods Rudolph along.)

3-4

DISOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM:
Meanwhile, the Elves are still bustling with activity. Christmas is over, but Elves never relax. If they are not making toys, they keep busy with lessons and self-improvement.

CUT TO CU OF ELF FOREMAN. HE BELLOWES...

FOREMAN
ALL OUT FOR ELF PRACTICE!!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF INTERIOR OF HALL OF CASTLE.

A group of the Elves are getting into formation. They face the Foreman.

FOREMAN
Quiet! Quiet everyone.
(They quiet down.)
Now as we all know we have got to have a new Elf song...to sing while we happily make toys and stuff for the good little kiddies. Right?

ELVES
Right boss.

MEDIUM CU OF ELF FOREMAN.

FOREMAN
So I am happy to announce that I have finally wrote a song that's fitting and proper. And as soon as Santa gets here...we'll try it out for him. Now ya' all got ya' music!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

ELVES
(Hold up their music.)
Yup!

Suddenly the door opens and Santa enters with Mrs. Claus. He is clearly upset, hurried and in no mood for their demonstration. CANCELL follows them over to two chairs.

SANTA
Now let's sit this over with. I've got to get down and look over the new deer.
(NUGG.)

3-5

AFTER SCENE 1

MRS. CLAUS
(Obviously delighted with the whole thing.)
Don't hurry! That's a nice job!!

MEDIUM SHOT. PIGEON AND SLEVER.

The Foreman gives a Lawrence Welk downbeat.

FOREMAN
And one and two and three...

SLEVER TURNS

All the Elves start to sing a short, comically-clumsy, treacly, happy-little-Elf song. Much "he-he-he" and "ho-ho-ho", "jolly-jolly" and all that. Coy and cloying gestures and facial expressions go with it. We keep cutting back to Santa...who groans and obviously doesn't like it. Mrs. Claus, however, bobs her head happily and looks enchanted by the whole thing.

(SONG)

AFTER SCENE 1

MEDIUM SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa sits for a long moment. All is silent. Then he gets up and vanishes.

SANTA
It needs work!

HE exits out of the frame.

SOUNDS: WE HEAR A DOOR SLAM.

Mrs. Claus rises indignantly.

MRS. CLAUS
What does Papa know? It's beautiful.

MEDIUM SHOT. MRS. CLAUS AND FOREMAN.

MRS. CLAUS
You know it just the way it was.
Papa...I hope...
(She exits out of frame.)

1-6
MEDIUM SHOT. DIFF ANGLE. ELVES AND FOREMAN

FOREMAN

(Furious)
That sounded terrible. What's wrong with you guys? The tenor section was weak!

AN ELF

Wasn't our fault, boss. Barney didn't show up.

FOREMAN

WHAT!! Where is that little...
(Stops himself.)
I bet I know!!
(To Elves.)
Run over it again. I'll be right back.

He dashes out of the frame.

DISBELIEVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF DOLL ROOM IN CASTLE.

Dolls are stacked all over the place in various stages of completion. Barney is seated at a long table...he has several dolls propped up before him. All have their mouths open.

DAUNA MOVES IN FOR CLOSE UP OF BARNEY

The little Elf ~~is~~ in heaven.

BARNEY

Now this won't hurt a bit.

The door to the room bursts open and the Foreman charges in.

FOREMAN

WHY WEREN'T YOU AT ELF PRACTICE!!!?

BARNEY

(Jumps)
Just fixin' those doll's teeth.

CU OF FOREMAN.

FOREMAN

You leave the dolls to me! Santa is very happy with them...not to mention a worldfull of little girls.

5-7

1-6
MEDIUM SHOT. FOREMAN AND BARNEY

FOREMAN

We got dolls that cry, talk, walk, blink and run a temperature! We don't need no chewin' dolls!

BARNEY

...I just thought I found a way to...
to...fit in.

FOREMAN

You'll never fit in!
(He exits out of frame.)

MEDIUM SHOT OF DOORWAY.

Foreman enters frame and stands by doorway. He points out,

FOREMAN

Now you come to Elf practice and learn how to wiggle ya' ears and chuckle warily and go "he-ho" and "hu-hu" and important stuff like that!

CU OF BARNEY. REACTION. HE FROWNS.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF ROOM. INCLUDE BARNEY AND FOREMAN.

FOREMAN

A dentist! Good grief!!

He leaves in a huff, slamming the door behind him. Barney starts to follow. But then stops.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF BARNEY.

BARNEY

No! I just can't! It's like he said. I'll never fit in.

He makes a decision. He turns and goes back to table.

LONG SHOT OF DOLL ROOM.

Barney gets his dentistry textbook from the table. He packs it under his arm. He goes toward the door again...then changes his mind. He goes to the window and starts to climb out.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF BARNEY AT THE WINDOW.

BARNEY

(Looking back.)
...I...guess I'm on my own ~~now~~ now.

DISSOLVE TO

3-8

LONG SHOT OF DEER FISHING AROUND IN MIDDLE OF FOREST. CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT OF RUDOLPH.

Suddenly Fireball stops and points with his head.

FIREBALL

Hey look! Dances!

Rudolph looks around shakily.

MEDIUM SHOT OF A GROUP OF BUSTY, LITTLE DOGS. THEY ARE

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL.

Rudolph looks surprised. Then he grins.

FIREBALL
Hey! Whaddaya know, kid. One of 'em
likes ya! Ha-ha!

RUDOLPH
Yeah, Fireball. You really think so?
(He turns back.)

SCOUND: A BLAST FROM A WHISTLE.

FIREBALL
Uh-oh. Bettors can it, kid. Care
comes the couch.

CU OF RUDOLPH. HE LOOKS DISAPPOINTED. THEN HE SMILES.

CLOSE SHOT OF DOGS. ONE IS SMILING AT RUDOLPH.

LONG SHOT OF MR. COOK. SKIPPER, THE COACH, TAKES OF TO TALK.

SKIPPER
Alright, yearlings...

CU OF SKIPPER.

CU of a large buck with a whistle around his neck. He wears a baseball cap, and the minute he speaks we recognize the reindeer counterpart of the eternal gym teacher and scoubidouter.

SKIPPER
My name is Skipper. And even though I'm
your instructor, I want to be your pal.
My job is to make buckles out of you. Let's get

it on.

3-9

(SHOT CONT'D.)

He bounces his head in the air. Whistle snaps up and he catches it in his mouth and blows it.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF SKIPPER AND YEARLINGS.

HALF-PK

Butting practice! Butting practice!
Everybody line up!!

The Yearlings line up into two teams, facing one another.

SCUD: COLLEGE FOOTBALL THREE UNDERCOURT IN JUNIOR.

Skipper blows his whistle again...and the two teams go at it. The game is little more than running and crashing their heads.

CU OF SKIPPER.

SKIPPER

Fine, men, fine. Ouch! But that was
a nice one!

CLOSE SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. BUTTING PRACTICE.

CLOSE SHOT OF DOGS. REACTION.

They are like highschool girls at a football game.
Ouch! "Caw! That...! Caw! That...!"

LONG SHOT. BUTTING PRACTICE.

LONG SHOT. MR. COOK MR. COOK.

Conner smiles proudly.

LONG SHOT. BUTTING PRACTICE.

Skipper runs into the center and blows his whistle again.

CU OF SKIPPER.

SKIPPER

Next period. Best period.

CU OF SKIPPER. SKIPPER OUT.

3-14

(SCENE CONT'D.)

Furiously, Rudolph turns back to them.

RUDOLPH

What's wrong with a red nose, anyhow?

All continues to jeer at him. Some pull ornaments off the trees and hurl them at him.

CLOSER TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH AND FIREBALL.

RUDOLPH

You're still my buddy...right?

FIREBALL

Buddy!!!! Go way!! I don't want to know any red nosed reindeer. What'll people think??

FIREBALL trots away.

C/U OF SKIFFER.

He flings whistle into his mouth and blows it.

SKIFFER

Alright yearlings, back to practice.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HIGH ANGLE. REINDEER BEGIN TO FORM RANKS AGAIN.

Skipper rushes over to Rudolph and pulls him away.

SKIFFER

Ohhhh no. Not you.

C/U OF SKIFFER.

SKIFFER

You'd better ~~be~~ home with your folks. Nobody wants a red-nosed reindeer on their team.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FROM DIFFERENT ANGLE.

SKIPPER

(To others.)
From now on...we won't let Rudolph join in ~~any~~ reindeer games!!

Rudolph looks at them for a second...then rushes away..holding back the tears.

3-14

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE. ALL THE OTHERS ARE IN THE FOREST.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE.

CLARICE

Rudolph!!

She rushes off after him.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE IN FOREST.

Rudolph rushes in. He stops and tries to get his breath. Clarice ~~sings~~ enters and stops short when she sees him.

RUDOLPH

(Defensive.)
Well...what do ~~you~~ want??

CLARICE

You...you promised to walk me home.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFF ANGLE. CLARICE AND RUDOLPH.

RUDOLPH

Aren't you going to laugh at my nose, too?

CLARICE

I think it's a handsome nose. Much better than that silly false one you were wearing.

RUDOLPH

It's terrible. It's different from everybody else's.

C/U OF CLARICE.

CLARICE

That's what makes it so grand. Why any girl would consider herself lucky to be with you. Why...why you could light the way for her.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT OF RUDOLPH AND CLARICE.

CLARICE (Speaking rapidly.)

And...and think how safe she'd feel.
She could see the Abominaville Show
Monster a mile off. And...and, look
at all the good you could do for the
world. Why Rudolph ~~is~~, you're...
you're a walking light house. That's
what you are!

(MORE.)

3-16.

RUDOLPH
(he is very pleased...he swallows
hard, then...)
Yup...

CLARICE
And besides...look how much better
you can speak now.

RUDOLPH
(A smile breaking through.)
See...Clarice....

SONG LIST

Deliriously happy, Rudolph sings
a wonderfully exuberant "I'VE GOT
A GIRL" type song. Clarice joins
him for a real, cute boy-girl number.
Maybe even a little hind-legged
hoofing can be thrown in.

(S.O.X.O.)

APRIL SONG:

ELEPHANT TIGHT TWO SHOT.

Clarice comes up to Rudolph...very close. They touch their
faces together...and start to walk away like a couple of
teenagers who have decided to go steady.

SOUNDS: SUDDENLY A MANSH, MASCULINE VOICE BOOMS OUT.

WICK
CLARICE!!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH, CLARICE AND OTHER LARGE REINDEER.

CLARICE
Papa.

FATHER
You get back to your cave this instant!

CLARICE
But...

FATHER
This instant, young lady!!

CLARICE
Yes sir.

With a sad look to Rudolph, she turns and leaves.

3-17

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF. ANGLE. FATHER AND RUDOLPH.

FATHER
Now there is one thing I want to make
very plain. No one of mine is going
to be seen with a red-nosed reindeer!

RUDOLPH
But...

FATHER
I have nothing more to say!!

RUDOLPH
Now, see here, sir...

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

Angrily, Clarice's father easily lifts Rudolph up on his
shoulders. He tosses him away into a bank of snow.

FATHER
That...young man, will teach you
to talk back to me!

He leaves.

CAMERA MOVES IN FOR CLOSER SHOT OF RUDOLPH IN SNOW DRIFT.

A tiny ornament falls off one of the trees and hits him on
the head. This is the last straw. Rudolph growls.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIF. ANGLE.

Rudolph starts to get up. Suddenly there is a movement in the
snow next to him. Rudolph looks down...startled. Finally
Herney, the misfit kid, sticks his head out.

HERNEY
Ooh! Is this your snowbank?

RUDOLPH
No...o. What are you?

HERNEY
(His chest puffing with pride.)
Well, actually I am a dentist.

RUDOLPH
(Puzzled.)
A Dentist?

CU OF HERNEY.

Herney

P.L. 3-19

OU OF HUMPHY.

HUMPHY
(Deflating.)
Well... I want to be... someday.
Right now, I'm just an elf.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND HUMPHY. DAY ANGLE.

RUDOLPH
Oh... you work for Santa Claus?

HUMPHY
I quit.

RUDOLPH
I thought I'd work for Santa someday, too.
But... I... guess... I quit too!
(Puzzled.)
Uhhhh... what's "quit" mean?

HUMPHY
Walk out. Run away.

RUDOLPH
I guess that's me.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HIGH ANGLE. THE TWO LITTLE FELLOWS ARE SWARMED BY HIGH CHRISTMAS TREES.

HUMPHY
(Shouting, with great bravado.)
Me... I don't need anybody! I'm
independent!!!

RUDOLPH
(Shouting.)
Me too!!! Independent!!!

Their shouting knocked snow and ornaments from the trees.
It lands with a crash. They jump and huddle together.

TIGHT TWO SHOT.

HUMPHY
Hey... what do you say we both be
independent together? Huh?

RUDOLPH
You wouldn't mind my red nose?

HUMPHY
Not if you don't mind me being a
dentist.

RUDOLPH
Deal!

3-19

SONG IDEA

They both sing the third chorus
of "MUSIC". They consciously
become their mutual fate.

(S.O.N.G.)

EXTERIOR SHOT

ARMED SLOWLY PULLS BACK TO EXTREME LONG SHOT OF THE
CLOUDS. ~~THESE TWO~~ THEY LEAVE THE FOREST OF CHRISTMAS TREES.

SAN. (VO)
Now these two little guys did not
know what they was lettin' themselves
in for. When ya' have to go out and
face it, ya' find that the world's
a lot more complicated and dangerous
than it seemed when you were snug and
warm at home.

EXTREME
SWING ABOVE... DIMINISH TO

MEDIUM SHOT. EXTERIOR. NIGHT.

The eerie, Arctic, midnight-sun throws strange shadows on the
ground. An icy wind is blowing. Barney and Rudolph trudge
onto the scene. Rudolph's nose leads the way and adds a touch
of color.

SOUND: SUDENLY THE COLD NIGHT IS FILLED WITH THE WEIRD AND
TERRIBLE GRIES OF THE ABOMINABLE SNOW MONSTER.

MEDIUM SHOT.

Barney and Rudolph stop.

HUMPHY
The "Abominable"! He must have
our boat.
(Holds his hands over
Rudolph's nose.)
Douse the light.

RUDOLPH
(To build up courage.)
Aww... it's not the "boomin'". It's
just... the... wind!

HUMPHY
Brrr... brrr... the wind...
... two little guys huddle together... shivering with fear.

3-20

CAMERAD MOVES UP AND OVER TO A JAGGED HILLSIDE, SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

ZOOM INTO HILLSIDE.

A huge claw reaches up from behind the hill. Slowly the lumbering silhouette of a hairy, part-bear...part-apelike creature pulls itself up. We hold on this apparition for just a second.

OUT OF HAM.

HAM
Like I said...the outside world
is up to its ears in dangers.

SOUND: THE THREATFUL HOWL OF THE MONSTER.

Ham shudders.

FADE OUT

END OF EMOTION SCENE

FADED OUT: SPECIAL BREAK

SECTION P.D.R

4-5

(SHOT CONT'D.)

CORNELIUS
(Indicating his team.)
They throw us a bone once in awhile.
It's share and share alike with
Yukon Cornelius! Wananshooooo!

(He hurls his pick ax
into the air.)

CAMERA FOLLOWS PICK-AXE.

It flies high into the air, then comes down and embeds itself
into the ground.

EXTREME SHOT.

Cornelius bounds over to the ax. He pulls it out, sniffs it,
tasted and examines the dirt thoroughly with it.

CORNELIUS
Nothing'll just do in these days...
Wananshooooo! Wananshooooo!

MEDIUM SHOT.

Cornelius bounds back to his sleigh.

CORNELIUS
Well, I'm off! Light as life sumthin'!-
but... whoa! Corn meal or 'gan powder or
dawn-breaks and today you'll give ya'
a lift!

Hermy and Rudolph run over to him. **THREE SHOT.**

RUDOLPH
Are ya' sure ya' don't mind that my
nose is red?

CORNELIUS
Aint everybody's?

HERMY
And ya' understand...I want to be
a dentist.

CORNELIUS
A noble profession. Hop aboard, waaaaay!

He reaches out two, great beefy arms and hauls them onto the sleigh.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. THE THREE OF THEM ON SLEIGH. DOGS UP FRONT.

(MUSIC)

4-6

(SHOT CONT'D.)

CORNELIUS
Now then! HUH!! I'm co-operate,
will ya'? Please...HUH!!
(His face goes blank.)
Uh-oh. I just remembered. It's
their turn to ride. Upay-daisy!

He hauls Rudolph and Hermy out of the sleigh. They land
in the snow with a thump. The dogs all jump into the sleigh.
Cornelius then takes the reins and starts to haul the dogs.

CU OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS
Like I say...it's share and ~~share alike~~
share alike!!! HUH!!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. SAME AS BEFORE.

He starts to pull. Turns to dogs.

CORNELIUS
Now...see how it's done?!

He pulls the sleigh off with a bewildered Rudolph and Hermy
trudging along behind. They exit out of the frame.

MUSIC: HAS BEEN UNDERSCORING ALL OF THIS WITH A HOKEY
CAREFREE THEME...SUDENLY TURNS INTO A BLAST OF
DISCORD AS...

...the Abominable Snow Monster jumps out from behind an ice bank
with startling suddenness. We see him fully for the first time.
He ~~is~~ about fifteen feet tall and covered with tangled hair the
color of wet slush. Ice and snow are matted into this. A great
barrel-chested body ~~is~~ supported by two, stubby tough legs...at
the end of which are even uglier claws.

CAMERA ZOOMS IN FOR A HORRIFIC CU.

He opens his mouth and scratches and we see the ugliest thing
about him...a mouthful of hideous, fang-like teeth which are
arranged in rows like those of a shark.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HERMY, RUDOLPH AND CORNELIUS.

Hermy and Rudolph are terrified. But Cornelius bellows
melodramatically.

CORNELIUS
Gadzooks...The 'Bubble Snow Monster'
of the North strikes again!! Whoopsee!

4-7

MEDIUM SHOT OF MONSTER. IT SQUEALS TRUMPHANTLY.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS

Anythin' I hate is a noisy 'Bumble Snow Hunter!!'
(Furious.)
Scat! now!! Ryan...before I turn ye' into Bumbleburgers!!

LONG SHOT. OUR FRIENDS IN THE FOREGROUND. THE MONSTER LOOKS IN THE BACKGROUND.

Monster starts toward them....arms outstretched like Frankenstein. Rudolph and Hermey cringe behind Cornelius.

CORNELIUS

Bumble just don't understand plain English!!
(Jumping up and down.)
We'll have to outwit the fiend with our superior intelligence.

RUDOLPH

H...now!

CORNELIUS

Run like crazy!! O'ment

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. DON'T INCLUDE MONSTER.

Cornelius sweeps Rudolph and Hermey back onto the sleigh with the dogs. Then he starts off...pulling the whole shebang at about sixty miles an hour. He "wumahcoos" and the dogs yip.

MEDIUM TRAVELING SHOT. CAMERA AHEAD OF ACTION. MONSTER IN HOT PURSUIT OF SLEIGH.

MUSIC: CHASE THEME.

LONG TRAVELING SHOT. CAMERA BEHIND ACTION.

As the Monster pursued our friends, he keeps reaching out his long arms. But Cornelius keeps one step ahead of him.

LONG SHOT. THE EDGE OF A BODY OF WATER.

Our friends come to the frozen shore line. They are trapped!!

RUDOLPH

We're trapped! There's no way out!!

The Monster laughs and calmly starts to close in. It is as if he is toying with our friends before he makes the kill.

4-8

CU OF CORNELIUS

CORNELIUS

Don't be mocked. The Bumble has one weakness...ah! I know it!!

MEDIUM SHOT. DON'T INCLUDE MONSTER

Cornelius takes out his pick-axe and quickly chops the ice on which they are standing. This is accompanied by much grunting and yelping from our nutty friend. Suddenly the ice breaks away and starts to float out into the water.

LONG SHOT. OUR FRIENDS AND THE DOGS ON ICE FLOATING AWAY FROM SHORE LINE. THE FEROCIOUS MONSTER IS ON THE BANK.

CORNELIUS

Do-it-yourself iceberg!! Har..Har..

He grabs a shovel and starts to paddle away. The Monster starts after him.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS.

He suddenly becomes quite professional.

CORNELIUS

Observe....the Bumble's one weakness...
the

MEDIUM SHOT OF ADMIRER. He steps into the water and goes right down to the bottom.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS

CORNELIUS
The Bumble...winks!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. CORNELIUS.

The monster crawls back on the ice, yelps and growls and shows his ugly teeth. Our friends are obviously out of range.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. THE SLEIGH.

Cornelius looks back at the monster, crosses his eyes, puts his fingers into his ears and sticks out his tongue at it. He jumps around like a triumphant, idiot boccolboy...practically upsetting the iceberg.

CORNELIUS

Baaaaahhh! Neaaaaah! Can't catch us!!

4-5

CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM AS HE LEAPS TO THE TOP OF ICEBERG AND POSES HEROICALLY.

CORNELIUS

Yukon Cornelius weeras general! Whoppeee! (He tosses his pick-axe into the air. It comes down into the ice, he examines, tastes and smells what it dug up. Gosh!!)

Then he slides down the iceberg up to Rudolph and Hermey.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND CORNELIUS.

RUDOLPH

(Worried by this nut.) Uhuh...Mister, where are we going?

CORNELIUS

You're gonna stay with me. And we're gonna be rich. Rich, I tell ya'. With the god-darned Silver strike half side o' Hudson bay! Silver....

MEDIUM SHOT.

He goes into his crazy lingo again. Only this time the word silver replaces gold.

AFTER BUNGE

MEDIUM SHOT. HERMITY, CORNELIUS AND RUDOLPH.

HERMITY

I thought you wanted gold!

CORNELIUS

(Hearing fiercely.) I changed my mind!! (He slides to the ground.) I'm hungry.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFF ANGLE.

One of the dogs hands him a biscuit. He munches on it.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. HERMITY AND RUDOLPH.

They exchange worried, incredulous glances.

4-10

MEDIUM SHOT.

The little iceberg drifts away from the Cavern into the strange, midnight sun.

SAM (V.O.)

Yessir, our friends were really on their way. Of course, they didn't know where they were going.

DISOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF CLARICE AT DOOR OF DODGER'S CAVE.

As a worried Mrs. Donner watches, Donner paces back and forth. He is very worried and remorseful.

SAM (V.O.)

Now you can bet that old Donner felt pretty bad about the way he treated Rudolph. He knew about the dangers outside....

Donner looks toward Cave door...shudders.

SAM (V.O.)

And he knew the only thing to do was to go out and look for him little buck.

MEDIUM SHOT. AT CAVES DOOR.

Donner starts out. Mrs. Donner comes to him.

SAM (V.O.)

Mrs. Donner wants to come along, naturally. But the old man says no! It's man's work.

Donner shakes his head no...and exits through cave door...into snow.

CU OF MRS. DONNER. A TEAR RUNS DOWN HER FACE.

SAM (V.O.)

But ya' never can figure a female. Even when she happens to be a dog.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CAVE. DIFF ANGLE.

Clarice enters...goes to Mrs. Donner.

SAM (V.O.)

And as Donner did the man of the house leaves, then Mrs. Donner and Clarice decide to set out on their own.

{ MUS. }

4-23.

AFTER SONG:

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS.

AS SOON AS THEY ARE SAFELY PAST THE GERMARDS, THEY BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF.

CORNELIUS
Sailor! There's the bane of existence
for a sailor like me.

HERNEY
You said you were a prospector.

CORNELIUS
(Roaring.)
Only difference between a sailor and a
prospector's a little bit o' ~~water~~ water!
(looks around...does a take.)
HOT! Now I know where we are. There now
miracles guard the passage to the...the...
Island of Lost Toys.

RUDOLPH
Island of Lost Toys? I never heard of
that.

CORNELIUS
Course not!! If everybody was 'bout
it, the toys wouldn't be lost!!

Suddenly the iceberg shits with a thump and everybody falls over.

MEDIUM CU OF CORNELIUS. HE SHRIEKS.

CORNELIUS
LAND HO!!!

LONG SHOT OF ISLAND OF LOST TOYS.

The little iceberg has dumped into a beautiful, fairy-tale island. The snow is colored in pastel shades and the ice glitters like multi-colored jewels. A golden castle rests in a rainbow-bred cloud in the sky above the island. ESTABLISH.

MEDIUM SHOT.

Our friends climb off the iceberg and out the island. RUDOLPH and HERNEY are overwhelmed by it's beauty. They run ahead and look around in awe. CORNELIUS sniffs at the dogs.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS AND DOGS.

CORNELIUS.
Stay here...and don't give up the ship!!

4-24.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH. HE IS DIZZY.

RUDOLPH
C'mon!

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH IS REPO.

CORNELIUS
Oh yeah.
• Jumps off and joins them.

CAROLINA POLLARDS THEM AS THEY WALK ALONG THE BEACH LINE.
Suddenly CORNELIUS points up.

CORNELIUS
Looky up there!!
...DIPS AND HERNEY LOOK UP.

SHOT OF A MAGNIFICENT, ANCIENT SLUGGED LION, FLYING THROUGH THE SKY. A GOLDEN CROWN RESTS ON THE NOBLE BEAST.

CORNELIUS
That's Mochrace. King of the Island
Of Lost Toys!

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS. ALL LOOK UP.

HERNEY
E...King?

In amazement, he leans against a large, brightly colored box. The toy flips off and a JACK-IN-THE-BOX pops out. All spring back.

MEDIUM SHOT OF JACK-IN-BOX.

JACK-IN-BOX
Of course he's the king. If it
wasn't for him, all the toys wouldn't
be here.

MEDIUM SHOT OF JACK-IN-BOX IN PLATE.

CORNELIUS
That Jack-In-The-Box is the sentry.
HOT DOG!!

RUDOLPH
Jack!

CORNELIUS
I 'course not. It's Charley!!

RUDOLPH (looking up,)
Are you a lost toy, Charlie?

4-15

MEDIUM SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS.

CHARLIE

Indeed I am. And it's a pitiful thing to be. However King Moonracer searches the entire earth...every night. When a careless child loses a toy, he finds it and bring it back to live on his island. We are happy here...and very grateful. For the outside world is not kind to lost toys.

HERMIE

Everybody who lives here is a lost toy?

CHARLIE

Look around. See for yourself.

SONG NUMBER

Charlie starts what will be the biggest production number in the show. He sings of the wonders of living on the Island. Our friends run up a hill. As they get to the top they look around and see a wonderful terrain. At the foot of the toy isle the tiny our friends look down on a village of their own which, like the landscape, is full of stratified animals and toy soldiers walk around and play games, etc. An electric train roars around its track, the rivers are other flowing toys. Buildings are made of toys, own free will, and the streets are full. I mean toy automobiles, everyone and everything has a voice, including the electric train...and is a basso-profound, mad stutters. Our friends walk on, (we keep getting back to them during song), using them as a form of reference. Indeed we have an a sight tour of the Island...and we see all the toys living in their natural habitat. Finally our friends return to Charlie, the Jack-In-The-Box, as the song ends.

(S.O.L.G.)

AFTER SONG

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS

CHARLIE

Well, now that you've seen our Island... what do you want of us?

CHARLIE

(A below.)
GODDAM IT'S CHARLIE!

4-16

(SHOT SHOT'D.)

Hermie and Rudolph grab child of his.

OC OF RUDOLPH.

CHARLIE

(looking up.)

At last, at last, we're back. And we'd simply like to spend the night here.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. HAD AS REPORT.

CHARLIE

Or sure...that too.

CHARLIE

Well, you'll have to get permission from King Moonracer. He's holding Court in his castle now.

HERMIE

Oh fine! El...low do we get up there.
(Looks up.)

OC OF CASTLE FLOATING HIGH ON ITS GOLDEN CLOUD.

OC OF JACK-IN-BOX.

CHARLIE

Simpatico.
(He whistles.)

MEDIUM SHOT. CHARLIE AND OUR FRIENDS IN FOREGROUND.

Suddenly we see three kites appear over the horizon. They sail toward our friends.

MEDIUM SHOT OF KITES FLYING.

They all have happy, friendly faces and whiz the air like kids playing games.

MEDIUM SHOT AS HERMIE.

CHARLIE

Just grab their tails as they go by!

OC OF SHOT. KITES IN FOREGROUND. CASTER A LOOKS DOWN TO THE FIELD.

(MORE.)

4-17

(SHOT CONT'D.)

As the kites pass over our friends, they grab onto the tails and are whisked up into the air.

CHARLIE
Take them to King Moonrader.

LOW ANGLE SHOT. LOOKING UP...AT KITES WITH OUR FRIENDS.

The kites swirl about and our friends, hanging on for dear life, snap about...as if at the end of a cracking whip. With such mad lib shouting and whooping, they're taken up to the cloud.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. EDGE OF CLOUD OR WATCH CASTLE IS PERCHED.

The kites and our friends enter from left. The kites lower their passengers onto the cloud...then fly away.

MEDIUM THREE QUARTER. RUDOLPH, HARRY and CORNELIUS.

RUDOLPH
(Calling after kites.)
Thank you....

CORNELIUS
Duh juss know this place is rich
in diamonds. I'm gonna' dig me a
diamond mine.

JOJO
He goes into his tango. This time
about diamonds.

HARRY
(Impatient)
Oh come on!!!

MEDIUM SUBT. DIL. ANGLE.

CORNELIUS
Yeah. Follow me, men. I've an idea
with these King types.
(They start off.)
Wait.
(as they lie into the cloud...
he feels, tastes and smells the fuzzy
material it brings back...
Nothing! C'mon! Stop wasting time.)

He picks them both up. Camera follows them as they enter the castle.

4-17

4-18

DISOLVE IN

LONG SHOT OF BLACK BULL.

This is a beautiful, golden Bull. At the end, on a slight elevation, sits Moonrader. The King is a beautiful animal. A perfectly formed lion with two large, graceful wings. His coat and mane are midnight black...and stand out magnificently against the glittering colors surrounding him.

He roars. Our friends, at one end of the hall, pull back.

MUNRADEK
Do not be afraid. That horridly
was my greeting.

MEDIUM SHOT OF OUR FRIENDS.

CORNELIUS
Oh! Well if that's the case...
(Roars like a lion)
...to you too!

HARRY
Ehhehehehe.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH.

RUDOLPH
Come closer.

Our friends come up to him. They now down.

MOONRADER
Please...that is not necessary.
What do you desire?

CORNELIUS
Goodwill....

JOJO
(Clamping his hand over
Cornelius's mouth.)
We'd like to spend the night, sir.

MUNRADEK
Stay as long as you wish. This is a
friendly island. You are welcome here.

RUDOLPH
Oh thank you, sir.
(His nose glows brightly.)

CT OF MOONRADER.

He starts at the sight of Rudolph's nose. He pulls back and frowns.

4-19

(SHOT CONT'D.)

MOORAKER:

That nose!

MEDIUM SHOT OF THORPE. DIF. ANGLES.

RUDOLPH

I...I...can't help that, Your Majesty.

MOORAKER:

I'm sure that you cannot, little fellow. But...but...it strikes me as a bad omen.

CORNELIUS

(Shaking Hermey away.) That's right, yer honor. It's a bad omen!! Good, old fashioned, healthy bad omens are few and far between. Why, it's just pure good luck that you found this bad omen!!

MEDIUM CU OF MOORAKER. HE IS COMPOSED BY THIS LAST.

MOORAKER:

I...uh...don't quite follow...

SOUND: Sudden cry of the "Abominable" in the distance.

MOORAKER:

(Jumping.) The Abominable Snow Monster! He's close by!

MEDIUM SHOT OF THORPE ROOM. DIF. ANGLES.

CORNELIUS

Yup...that Bumble's right on our tails!

MOORAKER:

I know it.

(To Rudolph.)

You bring the Abominable Snow Monster upon us! I am sorry, Reindeer...but you must leave our Island by morning. The others may stay.

CORNELIUS

Now that ain't fair!!

HERMAY

It's not his fault...it's...

MOORAKER:

I HAVE SPUN OUT OFF THE ISLAND BY DAWN!!! (He roars loudly.)

4-20

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF INTERIOR OF SMALL DOLL HOUSE. NIGHT.

SAH (VO)

Well Rudolph, bein' a decent-type reindeer, could not see his good friends thrown out..because of his nose.

During above we have picked out the forms of Cornelius and Hermey..tight asleep in the little beds. They are crowded to say the least.

Rudolph, who has been sleeping on the floor, gets up.

SAH (VO)

So that night he decides to strike out on his own.

Rudolph goes to the door, looks back and crawls out.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH FLOATING AWAY FROM ISLAND ON A SMALL PLATE OF ICE.

RUDOLPH

(Looking back.) Goodbye, Cornelius..I hope you find your fortune. Goodbye Hermey..whatever a dentist is...I hope someday that you're the greatest.

LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH FLOATING OFF INTO THE ARCTIC NIGHT...ALONE.

SOUND: CRIME OF THE SNOW MONSTER AS HEAR IN THE DISTANCE.

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END OF SECTION FOUR

PUPPET COMPANY

SECTION FIVE

FADE IN

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM THE SNOWMAN.

SAM

Well, the months dragged on and on,
Rudolph existed the best he could.

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH TRudging WILDERLY THROUGH A SNOWY VALLEY.

SAM (VO)

The Snow Monster kept him on the
run, but once in a while he would
stop and make a friend...or two.SECTION FIVEMEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH PLAYING WITH A COUPLE OF CUTE, BABY
POLAR BEARS.

SAM (VO)

But it wouldn't last long.

The mother polar-bear comes along...is spooked by Rudolph's
nose and roars an order at him...he points away. Rudolph
leaves sadly.

SAM (VO)

And Rudolph would be on his own again.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH FROM THE REAR.

He is drinking from an icy stream. We do not see his head.

SAM (VO)

But during all that time...a strange
and wonderful thing was happening.Rudolph suddenly raises his head to reveal a glorious set of new
antlers.

SAM (VO)

Rudolph was growing up.

He walks slowly.

CAMERA TRAVELS ALONG WITH RUDOLPH AS HE WALKS THROUGH VALLEY.

He is a handsome and noble reindeer. But his nose glows more
brightly than ever.

(MORE.)

(INT. SANTA'S LAIR - CONT'D.)

5-2

SAM (VO)
And the growing' is bit made Rudolph
realise one thing. And that was...
ya' can't run away from yer troubles.

Rudolph stops walking and holds his head high.

SAM (VO)
And learning that...he knew where
he had to go. Now!

DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT OF CHRISTMASVILLE. CAMERA MOVES IN TO A GROUP OF
REINDEER GRADING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE.
Rudolph enters. The deer all stop and look at him strangely.

EDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH GRAZING THE GRASS AREA.

OWNER (LIVE)
You? I thought you were gone for good!
Look who's back! (All爆笑)

Rudolph looks at them.

MEDIUM CU OF RUDOLPH

He turns his head, moves slightly and turns his back on the other deer. He trots away.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH TO HIS CAVE.

Rudolph trots up to it. He calls out.

MOM? PAW? RUDOLPH
I'm home!

He goes inside.

MEDIUM SHOT OF INTERIOR OF THE CAVE. IT IS EMPTY.

Rudolph looks around helplessly. Suddenly we hear Santa's voice.

SANTA (OFF CAMERA)
They're gone, Rudolph.

Rudolph looks around.

5-3

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. SAM & RUDOLPH.

RUDOLPH stands in the cave entrance. (Still not in red suit.)

SANTA
They've been gone for months...out
looking for you.

RUDOLPH
Clarice?

SANTA
She's gone too. And I'm very worried.
Christmas Eve is only two days off.
And without your father, I'd never be
able to get my sleigh off the ground.

RUDOLPH
I'll find him, sir. I'll find them all!

He turns and trots outside the cave.

MEDIUM SHOT. (CONT'D) SANTA.

Rudolph tries to run. He pauses for a second. Looks back at Santa.

SANTA (VO)
Well, he was just about to leave...
when suddenly...it hit!

The screen becomes filled with swirling snow. Rudolph is blown off his feet.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH.

SANTA (VO)
The storm of storms. Where it comes
from we never know. And only two days
before Christmas Eve...too.

MEDIUM SHOT. STORM THICK. SAME AS OPENING OF SCENE.

SHOT OF WIND RIPPING BRIDGES OFF SANTA'S CASTLE

SHOT OF ISLAND BEING OVER-TURNED

SHOT OF SANTA'S PALACE BEING BLOWN TO PIECES

SHOT OF AVALANCHE OF SNOW COVERING ANOTHER LITTLE BUILDING.

SHOT OF TREES IN CHRISTMAS FOREST BEING BLOWN OVER.

SPECIAL EFFECT: THE SCREEN IS FILLED WITH SWIRLING SNOW. ANIMALS,
LEAVES, PACKAGES, CANDY AND TOYS FLY HELTER SKELTER THROUGH THE AIR.

5-4

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHAKING SHOT OF RUDOLPH PUSHING THROUGH SNOWSTORM.

Ice and snow have formed on his antlers...and he looks half frozen. But his nose shines with grim determination...throwing its red glow over everything.

SAM (VO)

How Rudolph knew that he had to find his folks right away. Nobody could last long out in a blizzard like that!

Rudolph staggers over snowdrifts. He looks down. Distressed reaction.

MEDIUM TWO SHOT. BYE SAM. RUDOLPH AND DONNER.

Rudolph sees that he has stumbled over the prone form of his father...lying in the snow...half buried, injured and seemingly near death.

RUDOLPH

Donner stirs slightly.

CU OF DONNER.

DONNER

(Weakly.)

Yesss...light R. Rudolph? Say...why you're a great...father...just like I always knew you'd be.

LIGHT TWO SHOT. RUDOLPH SHAKES DOWN TO FATHER.

RUDOLPH

What happened?

DONNER

The Snow-Monster, son. I fought him off the best I could, but he captured your mother and Clarice. I warned them not to come out after you.

RUDOLPH

I've got to get you back.

DONNER

It's...too...late...son. Try...and... save...the...does...

Donner falls back into the snow. He is gone.

RUDOLPH

Oh Poppa...Poppa...I brought this on you!

5-5

SOUND: THE CRASH OF THE ARCTICABLE SNOW MACHINES.

MEDIUM SHOT OF RUDOLPH. HIS. ANGLE.

RUDOLPH

(Springing up.)

Norma...Clarice.

He exits out of frame.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO

LONG SHOT. LO ANGLE. RUDOLPH CLIMBING UP A HIGH AND CRAGGY HILLTOP.

Several times he slips and almost falls. But he regains his footing. He looks exhausted.

SAM (VO)

Well Rudolph...he follows the sounds of that monster's cries. And he ~~comes~~ is up to the side of the tall mountain. He is really winded, but he continues. 'Cause he knows he is getting closer and closer...and minutes count!

SOUND: CRASH OF THE SNOW MACHINES BLOWING WITH HOWLING WINDS.

MEDIUM CU OF RUDOLPH

RUDOLPH

Can't go...one...step...more...

CU OF RUDOLPH'S MOUTH AND CLARICE.

RUDOLPH

(pulling himself up.)

Get to...get to...

(He trudges out of frame.)

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. PENTALON TO A UGLY LOOKING CAVE.

The formation of rocks and snow make the hillside look like a giant skull. The entrance to the cave looks like a Manning mouth.

Rudolph comes up to the cave, leans against the side of the hill, catches his breath...then peers inside.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT OF EXTERIOR OF CAVE.

Great, black and dripping stalactites hang from the ceiling. The Big Monster has Clarice and Mrs. Donner cornered. His ugly teeth are bared and his mouth is watering.

5-6

CU OF THE MONSTER FRO. BOB'S POV. THE MONSTER BLINKS,

CU OF RUDOLPH, HE IS FURIOUS.

RUDOLPH
Don't you dare!!

MEDIUM CU OF MONSTER.

He turns around. Sees Rudolph. He smiles wickedly.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. RUDOLPH AND MONSTER.

Rudolph blinks his nose brightly. The Monster starts toward Rudolph. He makes a lunge. Rudolph side-steps and the nose crashes past him. To break his fall, the monster grabs a stalagmite which comes off in his hand. The brave deer lowers his head. He intends to charge the monster with his antlers. He makes a lunge. The monster怎么哭 cries out. Then he spins about and crashes the stalagmite down on Rudolph's head. Rudolph is stunned. The monster grabs him by the antlers and flings him over his shoulder. The ugly boar hits the boss. He is knocked out. The monster roars with laughter.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND BOB.

CLARICE
(She's more grown up.)
IN MR. DONNER,
I'm, don't

MR. DONNER
by Clarice, he's still alive.

SOUND: RUMBLE INVERSE.

MR. DONNER
But Rudolph was our last chance.
We're done for. Done for.

CU OF MONSTER. IT LAUGHS KINIGHTLY...AND STARTS TOWARD CLARICE.

DISSOLVE TO SAM. HE HOLDS HIS BIRDS...AND IS SCREAMING,

SAM
Tell me when it's over.
(Looks up..surprised.)
Oh! Yeah...where was HE? Let's see.
Their last chance? Not quite! They
had one more chance. Ya' see, ever
since Rudolph left him them..Hermey
and Yukon Cornelius had been trying to
find the friend. Well, they arrived
in Christmaville...just as the storm hit.
I send them out after Rudolph.

5-7

DISSOLVE TO

EXTEN LONG SHOT OF CORNELIUS AND HERMAY ON SLEIGH BEING PULLED
THROUGH SNOW BY DOGS.

CORNELIUS
(With gestures.)
Snow, snow...beautiful snow.
Inches snow! makes a body feel
all Christmas-like!

HERMAY
Glad you appreciate it! I'm freezing!
(Shakes. Points.)
Hey...look!

LONG SHOT OF EXTERIOR OF MONSTER'S CAVE.

L ogs pull sleigh up to it.

CORNELIUS (to Dogs.)
Woosah! Woosah!
Hoosah...will ya'!!!

Hermey and Cornelius hop off sleigh and look inside cave.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. CORNELIUS AND HERMAY

HERMAY
What do we do? We can't let that
monster get hold of them!

CORNELIUS
I got an I-dea!
(He whispers into Hermey's ear.)

HERMAY
Not bad...it might work.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

MR. DONNER and Clarice are holding the unconscious Rudolph.
The Snow Monster, baring his ugly teeth, slobbers over them.

CLARICE
Why doesn't he get it over with!!?
(She starts to sob.)

RUDOLPH
(Awakening.)
Hey...Clarice....

MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMNEY AND CORNELIUS AT CAVE ENTRANCE.

HERMNEY
Are you sure we can get him to come out here?

CORNELIUS
Never knew the Bumble knew someone
yet who'd turn down a park dinner
for deer-meat. Go on now, Lentist.
Do your stuff.

CORNELIUS climbs up onto a ledge over the cave entrance. He gets down on his hands and knees and walks around like a little pig. The dogs watch stupidly.

CAMERA PULLS BACK TO FRAME ALL ACTION.

HERMNEY
Oink-oink.

CORNELIUS
Put some heart in it! That 'Bumble's' hungry!!

HERMNEY
Oink!! Oink!!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

The Snow Monster stops dead in his tracks at the sound. He turns away from the git-up and looks over his shoulder toward the cave entrance.

MEDIUM SHOT OF CAVE ENTRANCE.

The shadow of what looks very much like a pig is cast by Hermey across the snow. A loud "Oinking" continued to accompany it.

The Monster leaps into the frame. He slithers and slaps in glee as he hurtles toward his would-be supper.

MEDIUM SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

As the monster dashes through the cave entrance, Cornelius... from his perch... shovels down an avalanche of snow over the monster's head. He is having the time of his life.

CORNELIUS
Unbelievable weghair we been havin'!!
Har..har..har..

The temporarily blinded monster sputters and gropes around with his long hands. Cornelius calls to the dogs.

CORNELIUS
Sic him!

5-9

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT OF DOGS. THEY LOOK UP AT HIM STUPIDLY

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNELIUS.

CORNELIUS
Sic him...www come on. That means
go like this.
(He demonstrates and bites
into his own arm.)

Beep

MEDIUM LONG SHOT.

The dogs nod yes and leap up and start biting Cornelius.

CORNELIUS
Not ne...him!!

They all come crashing down into the snow. Dogs yelp! The monster gropes toward Cornelius and the racket made by the dogs. Cornelius hauls the monster his pick-axe.

CORNELIUS
Let...make yourself usefull!

With a roar, the monster raises the pick and slashes at the air with it. CORNELIUS stands on the St. Bernards back. He reaches up and tickles the hair on the Snow Monster's head.

CORNELIUS
Right about now.

MEDIUM SHOT OF THE BLINDED MONSTER.

He brings the pick down on his own head with a whoosh...and knocks himself out.

MEDIUM SHOT. BIG ANGLE.

Hermey runs up to the monster. The dogs pile on him.

CORNELIUS
www lay off.
(He boots them off Hermey.)
Now do yer stuff.

Hermey advances on the monster with a devilish grin on his face.

MEDIUM SHOT OF INTERIOR OF THE CAVE.

The three deer are still cowering in the corner. They do not look out the ~~open~~ happened outside until Cornelius bounds in.

RUDOLPH
It's Yukon Cornelius!!!

(ROFL.)

1-10

(SHOT CONT'D.)

CORNELIUS
(Striking a pose.)
Ta...ah...in person!

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. INTERIOR OF CAVE.

Dogs come piling in at top of tunnel Cornelius. Yelling and yapping away.

CORNELIUS
THE FIGHT'S OVER, FOR CRITIS' SAKE LOUD.
(Barks dogs out of cave.)

KID, HERMIE
Thank heaven!

CLARICE
Let's get out of here!

RUDOLPH
I'll light the way.

The deer run over to Cornelius. They are about to leave when they suddenly are greeted by a horrendous, ice-cracking roar. They all pull back.

SOUND: ROAR OF MONSTER.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. BLACK CAVE EXTERIOR.

Blocking the cave entrance is the Snow Monster, who has regained consciousness.

CORNELIUS
Why...blast your hairy, bubble-heads!

Suddenly Hermie sticks his head between the legs of the monster and calls to him.

HERMIE
Don't let this big, blow-hard scare you anymore. Just walk right past him.

The surprised monster looks down. Then he fiercely puckers up his face and starts to let out a yell.

CU OF MONSTER.

As he opens up his mouth to yell, drool and snap...he suddenly grimaces, pulls his eyes together towards his nose to see his own fearful mouth. His teeth have all been pulled out! He is toothless as a baby. Obviously he can do no more harm. He grabs his mouth with both hands.

MEDIUM LONG SHOT. FRAME EVERYONE.

(MORE.)

5-11

(SHOT CONT'D.)

They all look at the monster and burst out laughing.

CORNELIUS
Ahh... tell you. You're lookin' like a mighty humble bumble!

MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMIE

He stands by a pile of rollers. He holds a pair of pliers in his hand. He grins proudly.

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND MONSTER.

RUDOLPH
Okay, you big bully. Let's see how brave you are without your fangs. It's about time we had it out!

He advances on the monster. But before he can get very far the dogs finally get the message and leap all over the pitiful Abominable Snow Monster. The monster gives a terrified howl and turns tail and runs off into the blizzard...muffs hanging all over him.

All cheer.

MEDIUM SHOT. CORNELIUS AND HERMIE BY PILE OF MUFFS.

Cornelius is fastening one of the teeth onto his switch bob.

CORNELIUS
Why, it ain't nothin' but a big nelly withouten his choppers. Yessir, Hermie... when they build a dentist's hall of fame... you'll be status number one!! YIPPEE!!

LONG SHOT OF ENTIRE GROUP.

Cornelius ~~had~~ throws his pick-axe up into the air. It comes down and he picks it up, ~~had~~ dirt and tastes it.

CORNELIUS
Nothing! But one of these days...

The group all laugh with relief.

DISOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM.

SAM
Well sir, they made it bank that night... just in time. Cause by midnight that storm ~~exactly~~ really settled in!

5-14

5-15

{SHOT CONTINUED.}

SAM (VO)

The Elves all go back to work. Even Hermey pitched in. [Guess he knew he would have his own dentist's office when the rush was over.]

The Elves start to sing their "cute" song...the music of which
underScore.

S. S.

CAMERA MOVES AWAY FROM ELVES AND THROUGH A DOOR TO SANTA'S DINING ROOM.

Santa, in his shirt-sleeves and suspenders, sits gloomily at his table...picking at his food. His hands are over his ears. Mrs. Claus stands behind him.

MRS. CLAUS

Eat!

SANTA

How can I eat? That idiot Elf song is driving me crazy!!

MRS. CLAUS

You're gonna' disappoint the children. They expect a fat Santa.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

A little Elf in an aviator's suit runs up to him and hands him a report.

ELF

(Saluting.)
Latest weather report, sir!

Santa looks at it and frowns.

TIGHT TWO SHOT. SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

SANTA

Well this is it. The storm won't subside by tonight. We'll have to cancel Christmas.

MRS. CLAUS

Papa! Are you sure?!

SANTA

Everything's grounded!
(Badly!)

Aw, the poor kids. They've been so good this year, too. But I couldn't chance it. Especially without Donner.

TWO SHOT. REVERSE ANGLE.

MRS. CLAUS

Why don't you pay him a call? Maybe he feels better by now.

SANTA

I doubt it. But I'll go see.

(Gets up.)

It's our only chance.

(Exits.)

MRS. CLAUS

(Calling after him.)
Papa...put a coat on.

DISSOLVE TO

MEDIUM SHOT OF CORNEL OF DONNER'S CAVE.

Donner, heavily bandaged, lies on a pallet of straw. He is still very weak. Mrs. Donner and Rudolph stand next to him.

RUDOLPH

No Pao, my mind's made up. Soon as you get better...I'm leaving again.

DONNER

No, no.

RUDOLPH

Let's face it, man. The others will never take to a red nose.

MEDIUM SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE. INCLUDE CAVE ENTRANCE.

Santa strides in from out of the snow. He wears an old, puffy coat. He shucks snow off him.

SANTA

I've never seen such weather!

Donner sees him and tries to get to his feet.

DONNER

Chief...
(He slips down again.)

SANTA

At ease, Donner.

DONNER

Please I won't be able to make it this year.

5-16

CU OF SANTA. EX THROWS.

SANTA

Guess no-one will. Even if you were better...going out in a storm like this would be crazy.

MEDIUM SHOT. INCLUDE RUDOLPH AND SANTA.

SANTA

Visibility is down to less than ten feet. No telling what we'd run into. ~~Phew~~, I couldn't even find tall chimney from a telephone pole.

RUDOLPH

Cough...this is terrible. Santa, couldn't I help...I mean...

(As he takes his nose glasses and catches Santa's eye.)

SANTA

No Rudolph. As I told you once. That nose disqualifies you from...from...

(Suddenly his face goes black.)

He gets an idea.

That nose? THAT NOSE!!!

CU OF SANTA.

SANTA

(His face lighting up.) THAT'S IT!!! YOUR NOSE!!

MEDIUM SHOT. SANTA AND RUDOLPH. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Santa grabs Rudolph and starts dancing around with him.

SANTA

Your nose! Your wonderfully, beautiful nose! Ho-ho-ho-ho!

RUDOLPH

Huh.

SANTA

Rudolph...you ARE going to take your old man's place tonight as lead reindeer.

RUDOLPH

I am!!?

(He smiles...cannot believe his ears.)

SANTA

Yessir! I need that nose of yours.

5-17

MEDIUM SHOT SHOT OF CAVE. INCLUDE PARENTS.

RUDOLPH

My nose!

(It goes on full blast and lights up the cave.)

SANTA

(Shielding his eyes.) From what I see now...that'll cut through the murkiest storm they can dish up!

(Rudolph seems bewildered.)

What I'm trying to say is...

MEDIUM SHOT. RUDOLPH AND SANTA.

Santa takes Rudolph by the antlers firmly.

SANTA

...Rudolph, with your nose so bright... won't you guide my sleigh tonight?

Rudolph looks at him blankly for a second...then the full import of Santa's request dawns on him. He snags his attention.

RUDOLPH

It will be an honor, sir.

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER AND MRS. DONNER.

Donner's chest swells grandly.

DONNER

I knew that place would be useful someday. I knew it all along!!

Mrs. Donner gives him a dirty look.

MEDIUM SHOT

LOW SHOT OF THE GREAT HALL OF SANTA'S CASTLE. JUST BEFORE REPARTIE.

Elves and Reindeer cast ail over the place making last minute preparations.

CAMERA PANS OVER SCENE.

At the center of activities is Santa's sleigh. Next to it is the huge bag which is being filled with toys. The reindeer are beginning to line up in front of the sleigh and are getting into their harnesses.

5-18

SONG IDEA

As all this activity goes on...all the
elves and deer sing "HOLLY-JOLLY CHRISTMAS"
with slight lyric changes. If song is not
used here...buoyant band music should
underscore.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.

Santa, now in his red pants...but still not wearing his coat,
makes last minute checks on his maps and charts. Mrs. Claus
tries to feed him his stew.

SANTA
(Vocalizing.)
Ho...ho...ho...

MRS. CLAUS
But now...ho-ho later.
(Santa takes a large spoonfull
of stew.)
Let me check! Turn.

SANTA
(Turning his profile.)
Awwh flaaaaa.

MRS. SANTA
Ho hukke...when you laugh.

His stomach has become quite large with Mama's feeding. He
roars with laughter. His belly shakes.

MRS. CLAUS
By my standards it's certainly
got like a bowlfull of jelly.

SANTA
This year it will have to do.
(Calls.)
My coat!!

MEDIUM LOW SHOT. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

Two elves rush out and bring him his classic red and white
coat. They help him on with it. He turns around, slaps his
cap on his head, and, as he hoists the bag of toys on his
back, he is suddenly the Santa we all know ~~xxxx~~. And he's
as magical as ever.

5-18

FULL CLOSE SHOT OF RUDOLPH. ESTABLISH.

He laughs and winks at Camera.

SANTA
Ready, Rudolph?

CB OF RUDOLPH

He gulps and nods yes.

LONG SHOT OF ALL REINDEERS ATTACHED TO SLEIGH.

Santa rushes over and jumps into the sleigh.

SANTA
Let's be on our way! Okay Rudolph...
full power!

Rudolph turns his nose on as bright as it will shine. A pink
glow is thrown over everything.

LONG SHOT OF REINDEER. DIFFERENT ANGLE.

The great hall doors are opened. Wind and snow blows in.

SANTA
(Shouting to deer.)
Up...up...and...aaaaaaayyyyyyy...!

The reindeer and sleigh fly out the great door into the night.

The others rush out after them, their good spirits more powerful
than the foul weather.

LONG SHOT OF SKY.

Rudolph's glow can be seen glinting through the murky darkness...
like Balsy's ~~aaaaaa~~ Comet!

MEDIUM SHOT. DONNER, MRS. DONNER, AND CLARICE.

CLARICE
He'll be a hero after this!

MRS. DONNER
Everybody will laugh at him.

DONNER
(Tears of pride running
down his cheek.)
That's my boy! My little buck!

5-20

CAMERA MOVES TO MEDIUM SHOT OF HERMIE AND CORNELIUS.

They are cheering wildly. Cornelius turns to dogs.

CORNELIUS

How...ya' see how it's done!!
Waaaaahooooo....

He throws his pick-axe into the air. It falls into the ground. He picks up dirt...looks, sniffs and tastes it.

CORNELIUS

(His face lighting up with delight.)
Peppermint!! What I've been searchin' for all my life!! I've struck it rich!! I've got me a Peppermint mine!!!
Waaaaahooooo....Hermie does an enormous take...smacks his forehead ~~and falls~~ backward into the snow.

ANOTHER LONG SHOT OF RUDOLPH'S SLEIGH DRIVING THROUGH THE SKY.

MEDIUM SHOT OF SAM, LOOKING UP TO THE SKY. HE SQUEALS.

SAM

Well folks, you know the rest of the story, Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer... he went down in history!

CUTTING TO SHOT ABOVE THE STORM...AS IF SEEN FROM A JET PLANE.

The moon shines down on the clouds with a magical effect. Suddenly, there is a red glow...and Rudolph breaks through...followed by the other reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh. Camera stays with them as they zig-zag in and out and around the fantastic cloud towers.

MUSIC: BUILT TO A BEAUTIFUL, FULL COLORIAL ENLARGEMENT OF TITLE CARD... "RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER."

SUPERPOSE CLOSING CREDITS

After credits Rudolph flies straight at the Camera. He swoops to the right and the other reindeer pass Camera. Then Santa passes. He waves and shouts...

SANTA

Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!

The sleigh zooms away from the Camera...and into the distant moonlight. As it disappears we...

FADE OUTTHE END

SEVEN

Rudolph Through The Years

After months and months of hard work by hundreds of talented people, the moment of truth finally arrived. On December 6th, 1964, as the clock struck 5:30 PM on the east coast, NBC Television beamed *Rudolph* out over the airwaves to tens of millions of households across the country. Back in New York, Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass could only wait and hope that their creation would appeal to America's TV viewers. The underwriters at General Electric must likewise have had their fingers crossed. When the program ended at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, the interested parties waited expectantly for the Nielsen ratings to be reported.

When the ratings came in, Rankin/Bass found their show to be not just a success, but a smash hit. It had taken a 55 share for its time slot [a share is the percentage of television sets in use]. In the years to follow, *Rudolph* would routinely win its time slot and consistently pull a 40-50 share. In 1995, the annual Rudolph airing on CBS garnered a 65 share.

With the terrific Nielsen numbers, the producers could breathe a sigh of relief. But there were still all the critics to be heard from in the next day's newspapers. Pleasing the public was one thing, pleasing the reviewers was quite another. But again, there was no need to worry. When the reviews came out the next day, they were overwhelmingly positive. *The New York Times* said, "... a charming and tuneful hour of fantasy on the special General Electric program..." *The Seattle Times* reviewer, C.J. Skreen enthused, "The program was an absolute delight—one of the finest Christmas presentations ever offered in any medium. N.B.C. owes it to the world to present it as an annual affair. Even the commercials were enjoyable." *Variety* called it, "...full of charm, occasional wit, and tunes which caught the spirit of the piece." *The Baltimore Sun* reviewer, Donald Kirkley said, "...a new Yuletide classic, one which belongs in the repertory of seasonal specials." "This was the work of many gifted people."

There were few negative reviews, but even those who disliked the show were mild in their criticisms. *The Herald Tribune* could only complain about, "...characters purloined from W.C. Fields... scenes and situations borrowed from 'The Wizard of Oz'..." *The New York Daily News* reviewer, Ben Gross, was forced to mix praise with his critique. "It had